***Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* Wiki Post**

**Mr. Smith Reflection – Option 1**

Smith’s idealism contrasts sharply with many characters in the film: Taylor’s ruthless despotism, Senator Paine’s pragmatic politics, and Miss Saunders’ wisecracking cynicism. Do you find Smith’s patriotism corny and naïve? Why? Do you think it reflects the genuine spirit of American democracy? Why?

**Mr. Smith Reflection – Option 2**

In the seven decades since the controversial Washington premiere of "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," everyone from Richard Nixon to Barack Obama has sought a connection to an idealistic fictional senator played by Jimmy Stewart. Why would politicians chose to associate themselves with Jefferson Smith? What type of sentiment does this evoke?   
  
For more information, there's an interesting article - "Power Player"  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/06/23/AR2009062302343.html>

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